

VOLUME 3

Craighall

Primary School

12 March 2026

School Newsletter



REMINDERS:

13 March – Extra Murals end
16 – 20 March – Netball & Soccer trials
20 March – Gr 5 & 6 Cake and Candy
21 March – Human Rights Day
23 March – Gr R Parents/teacher progress meeting
25 March – Individual & Sibling Photos
26 March – Class & Staff Photos
Parents Evening (5pm – 7pm)
27 March – School closes (10:30am)

Dear Parents,

Thank you to our parents, children, and staff for the wonderful support shown during our Flip Flop Day in support of Lilly. It was a special day that reminded us what it means to stand together as a school community and be true “solemates” on this journey.

The funds raised were donated to Lilly’s family and have already been used to support an important medical procedure. The family asked that I share their message of gratitude with our community below.

To the incredible Craighall Primary School community 🌸

Our family would like to say the most heartfelt thank you to every pupil, parent, and teacher who took part in the Flip Flop Day in support of Lilly. The kindness and generosity shown through wearing slip slops and contributing towards her journey touched our hearts more deeply than words can fully express.

What moved us even more was knowing that many of the children and families who supported the day do not even know us personally, yet they chose to stand beside Lilly.

That kindness speaks volumes about the beautiful spirit of this school community.

The funds raised are being used for very meaningful parts of Lilly’s journey.

They are helping us with a delicate procedure to preserve some of her future fertility before further treatment, as well as towards a beautiful wig as she loses her hair.

These things bring Lilly hope, dignity, and a sense of normality during a very difficult time.

Please know that every pair of slip slops worn and every contribution made has wrapped our family in love and support and reminded us that we are not walking this road alone.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for standing with Lilly. 🌸

On the staffing front, congratulations to Mrs. Du Preez on the birth of her beautiful baby boy, Oliver. Oliver made his arrival a whole month early, which meant that we needed to move quickly to ensure that everything at school continued to run smoothly while she begins this special time with her new baby.

In light of this, we would like to warmly welcome Miss Sosibo to our Grade 4 team. Miss Sosibo has joined us in Mrs Du Preez’s maternity post and will continue teaching with us thereafter when she moves into Mrs Knowlden’s position once Mrs Knowlden departs in June. We are delighted to have her join the Craighall team and look forward to the contribution she will make to our school.

We would also like to welcome Mrs Gibbon, who has joined our administrative team in the role of Admissions Officer. In addition to overseeing admissions, she will also be heading up our administrative systems, namely Staffroom and SASAMS. We wish both of these new members of staff every success as they settle into the Craighall community.

Our **annual Craighall Disco** was once again an incredible success. This year’s theme, **“Glow Wild,”** certainly lived up to its name. Our PTA and parent volunteers truly **went wild with the décor**, transforming the venue into a vibrant and exciting space, while the children went just as wild on the dance floor, enjoying every moment of the evening.

A huge thank you goes to the many parents who worked tirelessly behind the scenes, from planning and selling tickets and merchandise during the week, to the extraordinary effort that went into the décor and set-up. The atmosphere on the night was electric, and the joy on the children's faces reminded us how important these moments of fun, connection, and community are in our school's life.

Events like our annual disco are only possible through the incredible generosity and support of our community and local partners. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the following businesses who so kindly contributed to making the evening such a success:

33 Olive, who for the second year running generously offered their space and pizzas to the décor team as they worked behind the scenes, preparing for the event.

- Food Lovers Market, for sponsoring all the food for the evening
- Tree-mendous Pot Plant Hire, who kindly lent beautiful pot plants for the décor free of charge.
- Lifestyle Garden Centre, who also contributed plants to help create the wonderful atmosphere.
- Grey Gardens, for the loan of snakes and flowers which added a unique and vibrant touch to the décor.
- Bruno's Tattoos – Fifteen20, for creating the epic mural that added such an exciting feature to the event.
- Love4Music, for providing the DJ and keeping the dance floor alive throughout the evening.

Your generosity and willingness to support our school community are deeply appreciated.

Our **Open Day, which took place yesterday**, saw **more than 200 pairs of feet** walking through the gates of Craighall Primary, with many eager eyes taking in the beautiful environment that makes our school so special.

The school looked better than ever, thanks to the thoughtful décor and care added by our **PTA**, helping to present the school in its very best light. A special thank you must also go to our **gardening team**, who have worked tirelessly over the past few weeks to ensure that our gardens looked beautiful and welcoming. Every space was carefully prepared so that visitors could experience not only our facilities, but also the warmth and energy that define Craighall.

Of course, what visitors feel most strongly when they walk through our school is the people. The enthusiasm of our **children**, the dedication of our **teachers**, and the support of our **administrative and grounds staff** all contribute to creating the environment that makes Craighall the flagship school it is.

Our **Grade 7 monitors** also played a very special role on the day. They assisted with **ushering visitors into the school and were actively involved in the tours**. It was truly wonderful to watch them step into their leadership roles with such confidence and pride. They took their leadership to new heights, did both themselves and the school proud, and were wonderful ambassadors who truly **sold the spirit of Craighall**.

A special thank you to the parents who kindly supplied **delicious eats** for our visitors after their tours, as well as to the **PTA parents who generously gave their time to guide tours around the school**. Year after year, visitors comment that one of the highlights of Open Day is being taken around by current parents. It creates an immediate sense of trust and reflects the strong investment our families have in the school.

At our recent School Governing Body meeting, we elected the office bearers for the year. We thank these individuals for their willingness to serve our school community and for the time and expertise they bring to their roles.

Our office bearers for 2026 are:

Chairperson: Shaun Raaff

Treasurer: Sifiso Simelane

Secretary: Sharon Martin

Our additional parent representatives are:

Tim McDougall, who will assist with the legal portfolio in his capacity as an attorney; Grahame Cruickshanks, who continues in his portfolio overseeing infrastructure and building matters; and Nicky Nicholls, who provides valuable support with data analysis.

Representing our educators on the SGB are Muse Sibanda and Nicole Peeperkorn.

We welcome them to the 2026 year and thank them for their commitment to supporting Craighall Primary School. Our next full SGB election cycle will take place in 2027.

Last week, we also had the privilege of appointing Flag Monitors, a responsibility that for some time we had been remiss in awarding. We congratulate Sebastian Anhaeusser, Hunter Pringle, Winston Guerrero, Bailey Centre, and Minnie Nkosi, who have taken on this duty. They have already shown great diligence in raising the flag each morning and lowering it at the end of the school day. It is wonderful to see more responsibility being embraced by the various leaders within our Grade 7 group.

As we begin to wind down Term 1, we also bring our extramural programme to a close this week. It will end on a wonderful high as our swimming team has been selected to participate in the Prestige Gala, an event that invites schools that have won the majority of their races during the season. Although the weather only allowed our school to participate in two galas this term, our swimmers won both by a significant margin, making them most certainly deserving of their place at the Prestige Gala. Congratulations to our swimmers and their coaches on this fantastic achievement.

Looking ahead to Term 2 sport, we will be holding soccer and netball trials next week. Please ensure that you read the updates shared on the Sports Announcement WhatsApp group for details of when your child will be participating in the various trials.

The final week of the term is always a busy one, with several important events taking place.

On Wednesday, 25 March, we will be taking individual school photographs. All children must attend school in their full summer uniform, as sports uniforms will not be permitted for these photographs. Individual photos will be completed by second break.

After second break, we will take sibling photographs. We kindly ask parents to only send their children to the hall for sibling photographs if you intend purchasing the photograph. These sessions involve very large groups of children and significant organisation, and it is always disappointing when only a few photographs are ultimately purchased. Your consideration in this regard would be greatly appreciated.

On Thursday, 26 March, we will take our class photographs, so please once again ensure that your child is neatly dressed in their correct summer uniform.

On Thursday evening (26 March), we will host our Grade 4-7 Parents Evening, which will run from 17:00 to 19:00, with parking available on the top field.

This evening provides parents with the opportunity to visit the teachers who work with your child.

- Miss Nkoana - will be in the Computer Room
- Afrikaans teachers - will be in their classroom
- isiZulu - Mrs Mashamaite will be in her classroom
- Life Skills teachers and Phys Ed coaches will be available in the Boardroom.

We will also have the Travelling Bookshop set up in the library, where parents will be able to browse and purchase a wonderful selection of books for children.

In addition, as required, we will be **presenting the school's income and expenditure for the last financial year to the parent body**. I will be available in the **hall**, where the financial statements will be displayed on the screen for parents to peruse. Should you have any questions regarding the financials, you are most welcome to direct them to me there. It is important that **each parent attending the evening first comes into the hall to sign the register for the financial presentation**.

As we draw Term 1 to a close, I would like to thank our entire Craighall community — our children, staff and parents — for the energy, care and commitment that you bring to the life of our school every single day. From supporting one another in difficult times, to celebrating together at events such as the disco and Open Day, it is clear that the roots of this community run deep. When we nurture those roots through kindness, effort and shared purpose, we create a school where every child has the opportunity to grow strong and rise with confidence. Thank you for being part of what makes Craighall Primary such a special place.

Happy belated birthday to: Mr Moloisane (Ground staff) – 16 February; Miss Schoeman (Gr 3,4 Afrikaans Educator) – 17 February; Mr Khumalo (Security) – 27 February; Mrs Daniel (Gr R Educator) – 9 March.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Prout-Jones
(Principal)

Sports News 2026

Sports News 2026

At Craighall Primary, being a true sportsman or sportswoman means representing our school with pride, respect, and integrity in every practice and match. It means playing by the rules, listening to coaches, and always giving your best effort—no matter the score. A Craighall athlete supports teammates with encouragement, celebrates successes humbly, and accepts losses with maturity and determination to improve.

Good sportsmanship also means showing respect to opponents, referees, and spectators, understanding that everyone is there to enjoy the game and grow. By demonstrating teamwork, kindness, perseverance, and a positive attitude both on and off the field.

- Showing **respect** to teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials
- Playing **fairly** and following the rules
- Demonstrating **grace in victory** and **dignity in defeat**
- Encouraging others and maintaining a positive attitude

Great athletes understand that character matters just as much as skill.

Knute Rockne believed that "One man practicing sportsmanship is far better than a hundred teaching it."

Results:

Date and Day	Sport	Result
Thursday 12th Feb	Mini Cricket	Well done to the mini cricket players, they won both matches
	U9 Cricket vs Delta	U9 won by 9 wickets
Friday 13th Feb	Swimming Gala	Cancelled due to rain and lightning
Monday 16th Feb	Ter Horst B vs Sparrow	Terhorst B won by 7 wickets (Ben Jubber 21 runs, Alexcia Dubb 2 wickets)
	Comm B vs De La Salle	Comm B lost by 185 runs
Wednesday 18th Feb	Ter Horst A vs De La Salle	Ter Horst A won by 7 wickets (Hunter Mullins 66 not out)
	Comm A vs De La Salle	Comm A won by 5 wickets (Hunter Pringle 2 overs 3/8, Sebastian Annhauser 2/17)
Thursday 19th Feb	Mini Cricket	Well done to the mini cricket players for winning their matches
	U9 Cricket	U9's won by 15 runs (Jonty Babich 22 runs, Art Cooperman - Frost 14 runs, 2 run outs and 1 wicket)
Friday 20th Feb	Gala at Craighall vs Blairgowrie, Louw Geldenhuys and Curro Aurora	We came first by over 200 points
Monday 23rd Feb	Ter Horst B vs Delta	Ter Horst B lost by 7 wickets
	Comm B vs Parkview	Comm B won by 21 runs (Tshedza M 38 runs not out, Ben Flemmer 2 wickets for 5 runs)
Wednesday 25th Feb	Ter Horst A vs Greenside	Ter Horst A won
	Comm A vs Greenside	Comm A won by 8 wickets (Alex Oldnall 2 overs 4 wickets for 9 runs, Ryan Kyle 38 runs, Hunter Pringle 48 runs not out)
Thursday 26th Feb	Mini Cricket	Well done to the mini cricket children who won their matches
	U9 Cricket vs De La Salle	U9 lost by 9 runs (Abigail Venter 2 overs - 4 wickets for 7 runs)
Friday 27th Feb	Gala at DSJ	We won the gala by a whopping 300 points
Monday 2nd March	Ter Horst B vs De La Salle	We won by 8 wickets (Adam Annhauser 51 runs)
Wednesday 4th March	Comm A vs Parkview	Comm A won by 10 wickets (Rhys Masterton 2 overs 3 wickets for 1 run, Zadh Raaff 41 runs off 13 balls)
Thursday 5th March	Mini Cricket	Due to the weather these matches were cancelled
	U9 Cricket vs Greenside	
Friday 6th March	Make Up Gala at Reddam Waterfall	Cancelled due to weather
Monday 9th March	Ter Horst B vs De La Salle	Lost by 10 wickets
Wednesday 11th March	Ter Horst A vs Rosebank	Ter Horst A won 76 runs (Ollie Rowles 34, Evan Murray 31, Dylan Bodmer 1.5 overs 4 runs for 3 wickets)
	Comm A vs Rosebank	
Thursday 12th March	Mini Cricket	TBC
Friday 13th March	TOP 5 Gala	TBC

Thank you all for a wonderful season. Looking forward to a great second term of soccer and netball.

ADVERTS:

Mahalia's Tutoring Agency **PRIMARY TUTORING SERVICES**

Need Help with Your Studies?
One-on-one tutoring tailored
to your needs!

**PACKAGE
OFFERS
AVAILABLE**

WHAT WE PROVIDE

- Private Tutoring
- Homework Helpers
- All Primary School Subjects
- Personalised Lessons
- Test Preparation
- Affordable Rates



CONTACT US

We find tutors near you in Johannesburg
061 171 4214
molobimahalia@gmail.com